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THE STAR IS THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN MARION COUNTY TAKING TELEGRAPH SERVICE

AUSTRIA DESIRES AN ARGUMENT

With America Regarding Sinking of the Ancona

VIENNA, WHILE CHEWING THE RAG, EXPRESSES SYMPATHY WITH THE VICTIMS

(Associated Press)

London, Dec. 16.—The Austro-Hungarian reply to the American note in relation to the sinking of the Ancona was handed to Ambassador Penfield at Vienna Tuesday, according to a Reuter message from Amsterdam. The correspondent says the reply states that Austro-Hungary is prepared in principle to enter in an exchange of opinion with the American government and leaves it to the Washington cabinet to draw up the legal maxims which the commander of the submarine which sunk the Ancona is alleged to have violated. The Austrian government expressed sympathy with the American victims.

WASHINGTON HAS NO WORD

Washington, Dec. 16.—Officials had not received any word of the answer to the Ancona note. It was made clear, however, if the excerpts as contained in news dispatches reflected the tone of the full text it would be considered unsatisfactory. Officials are not willing to enter into diplomatic correspondence which may be prolonged.

AUSTRIA IS INQUISITIVE

The Austrian charge had no official communication regarding his country's reply, but after reading the news dispatches conferred with Secretary Lansing. Previously he had asked what the United States would do if the answer was unsatisfactory.

VIENNA IS OPTIMISTIC

Vienna, Dec. 16.—The situation as regards Austro-Hungary and the United States is considered as having become less ten since the reply to the American note was dispatched.

ADMIRALTY APPROVES SINKING THE ANCONA

Vienna, Dec. 16.—The Austro-German admiralty is entirely opposed to any disavowal of the course of the submarine commander responsible for the sinking of the Italian liner Ancona. The admiralty approves his conduct thoroughly. The admiralty declares that the commander would have been considered as failing to perform his duty if he allowed the Ancona to escape. The reply to the American note, it is understood, has been delivered.

ISN'T GOING TO HELP PUT HIMSELF OUT

(Associated Press)

Atlanta, Dec. 16.—Mayor Woodward vetoed the resolution of the city council providing for a recall election affecting the mayor and four members of the city police commission. Six attorneys advised him the action was legal, although he himself is affected.

MALCOLM R. PATTERSON BEATEN BY McKELLAR

Nashville, Dec. 16.—Congressman Kenneth D. McKellar of Memphis won the democratic nomination for the United States Senate yesterday over former Governor Malcolm R. Patterson in the run-off primary by an estimated majority of 15,000. Governor Patterson has conceded his defeat.

Big delayed shipment of TOYS opened up today at THE BOOK SHOP. 8t

SAFELY INTRENCHED AROUND SALONIKI

BRITISH AND FRENCH AWAIT ATTACK OF TEUTONS AND BULGARIANS

(Associated Press)

London, Dec. 16.—A lull has set in on the Macedonian front which well-informed observers believe will last until after the Greek elections Sunday. The Allies occupy strong positions north of Saloniki, after their retreat. The well organized retreat is regarded here as one result of the new co-ordination among the Allies. If the Germans assault the new allied positions they will need heavy guns and it will probably take some time to bring them up.

ALLIES' BIG ARMY

Dispatches to London say the allied Balkan army numbers 200,000 men.

ON THE VARIOUS FRONTS

It seems fairly well settled that the Bulgarians do not intend to invade Greece, an action which would likely cause dissensions in that country which already is uneasy over the Bulgarian occupation of Monastir. Also it is not believed that Austrians and Germans have sufficient troops available to attack the entente allies.

The speculation naturally has to do with the Germans and their intentions. They are variously reported to be concentrated near Monastir and Doiran and on the Rumanian border and as preparing for an attempt to drive the entente allies from the Gallipoli peninsula. All these reports lack confirmation.

One thing seems certain to the military observers—that the Germans will have to keep a close watch on the Rumanian side, not only because of the danger of that country entering the war against them, but to meet the threat of a Russian invasion thru Rumania, which although little has been said of it recently has not been lost sight of.

Wherever the Germans move they will find the entente allies prepared. Saloniki is being made stronger daily and has the backing of warships, as also has the Gallipoli peninsula, where the entente positions likewise have been strengthened. The Russians are believed by the military authorities to be able to cope with any army the Teutonic powers can collect on the Rumanian border, while Egypt, which is said to be another of their objectives, also has been placed in a state of defense.

There are many persons who believe that the Germans' purpose to rest on their laurels in the near east for the time being and make a bid for victory on the western front. Persistent reports come from Holland of the concentration of German armies in Belgium and Luxembourg with the intention of striking a blow as soon as the ground permits it. At the present moment the greater part of the country is a sea of mud.

The reported concentration of German doubtless accounts for the army air raids which the entente allies are making behind the German lines.

Gen. Townshend reports the repulse of further Turkish attacks against the British position at Kut-el-Amara, Mesopotamia.

There have been no changes in the situation of any of the fronts.

A NEUTRAL ZONE AGREED ON

Sofia, Dec. 16.—A neutral zone extending two kilometers each side of the frontier has been agreed upon between Greece and Bulgaria, it is officially announced.

What YOU would like for a Christmas present is what you should GIVE. You can find it at The Court Pharmacy. 11-6t

ERECTORS 10c. to \$7.50 at THE BOOK SHOP. 3t

Santa writes from the North Pole that he will be at Fishel's this X-mas.

ROONEY RETURNS

WITH AN OPTIMISTIC REPORT OF OKLAHAWA WORK

Secretary Rooney returned this morning from Washington, where he has been diligently at work in favor of Oklahoma improvement.

Mr. Rooney brings a good report of the prospect. He says that Congressman Clark is pushing the plan for the improvement of the waterway, and that there are the best prospects for its success. Mr. Clark is on one of the most important committees and has a great deal of influence. He will not let this most important measure for his state fail if he can push it thru.

Mr. Clark has introduced the bill calling for the survey for the Silver Springs-Withlacoochee canal, which is to be a cut thirty feet wide with not less than six feet of water, and there are good prospects for its going thru.

Mr. Rooney also says that there is almost a certainty of an appropriation to fight the citrus canker. All the Florida congressmen are working for this, and they have the help of many of their colleagues.

CHANGE OF CAPTAINS

SIR DOUGLAS HAIG WILL SUCCEED SIR JOHN FRECNH

(Associated Press)

London, Dec. 16.—The retirement of Sir John French and the appointment of General Sir Douglas Haig as commander in chief overshadows all other war news today. Sir Douglas Haig takes the position with a high reputation. He has seen more hard fighting than any other British officer in the service.

TRANSPORTATION CO WILL BUY A NEW TRUCK

At a fairly well attended meeting last night at the Board of Trade room of the stockholders of the Ocala Transportation Co. it was decided to purchase a three ton truck to replace the old one recently burned to be used in hauling the line's freight from the Springs to Ocala.

Mr. Carmichael said he knew of a thoroughly reliable rebuilt truck in Jacksonville that could be bought very cheap, and he was authorized to go to Jacksonville and make the best purchase he could of the truck to be delivered at Ocala.

It was decided to add a small percentage to each freight bill and keep the money in a fund to pay for the truck, the money for its purchase to be negotiated by the stockholders on their personal credit. The old truck is not worth rebuilding. It is obsolete and the parts expensive, and it never was much of a truck.

The members of the company are not one whit discouraged and their feelings last night were unanimous on going ahead, that we had only begun to fight and would stick to the river an dtruck route till the end.

Any two members of the "force" at Theus Brothers' furniture store may drink bottled Coca-Cola at the expense of the company by presenting this notice at the Arcade restaurant. The Ocala Coca-Cola Bottling Works.

A few selections of Schraft's fine candies put up specially for Christmas, just in at The Court Pharmacy.

AN EARLY ADVANCE ON EGYPT

Will be Made by Teutons and Ottomans

DOUBLE-TRACKING RAILROAD FROM DAMASCUS THRU THE DESERT GREATLY INCREASES THE DANGER

(Associated Press)

Rome, Dec. 16.—The German threat against Egypt is growing grave daily in the opinion of military men here. The construction of a double tracked railroad from Damascus to the Egyptian frontier is being pushed and expected to be finished Feb. 1st. This will make possible the concentration of half a million men within a month. Army engineers are laying many miles of tubes for the transportation of drinking water across the desert.

TRAIN ROBBERS

HELD UP A TRAIN ON THE KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN

(Associated Press)

Mena, Ark., Dec. 16.—Southbound Kansas City Southern passenger train No. 1 was held up by three robbers near here this morning. The express safe was blown open but it is reported the loot was small. The passengers were unharmed.

GENERAL PRESENTMENT OF THE GRAND JURY

Ocala, Fla., Dec. 15, 1915. To the Hon. W. S. Bullock, Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Florida:

We, the grand jurors sworn and impaneled at this, the fall term of the circuit court in and for Marion county, 1915, having completed our labors, beg to submit this, our final presentment:

We have examined a great many cases, and have found true bills in those cases only where we thought a petit jury would be justified in bringing in verdicts of guilty.

We have examined the jail and find the same in a thoroughly sanitary condition. We find a few lights broken out of the windows, and inasmuch as winter is on, we recommend to the board of county commissioners that the same be repaired at once.

We have examined the court house and find that some of the plastering has fallen off, and recommend that this be repaired at once.

We have examined various county offices and find them all to be neatly and well kept.

We find that some of the justices of the peace throughout the county have failed to follow the law in giving the witness the proper notice as to when to appear before the circuit court. We call their attention to this matter and request that same be not overlooked in the future.

In the matter of investigating the acts and doings of the bond trustees of the city of Ocala, we beg to advise that no evidence was submitted upon which we could take any action.

We have referred some cases to the county judge for trial, and in this matter we request that the sheriff make the necessary affidavits on which the trial can be had.

Having completed our labors, we now ask to be discharged.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric J. Collier, Foreman.
Attest: W. E. Christian, Clerk.

Watch for the arrival of our famous NORRIS' Christmas candies—a box for everyone in the family. The Court Pharmacy. 11-6t

FORT KING

Historic Spot, on Which Ocala Should Stand, Is Now an Old Field

(From the Tampa Times' Christmas Edition)

Ocala, Fla., Dec. 15.—Of the thousands of people who travel the Ocala to Silver Springs boulevard every year, not many realize that about half way between the two places, a few hundred yards south of the road is a place where some of the most stirring scenes in the early history of Florida were acted.

Shortly after taking possession of Florida, in 1820, the United States government built a chain of forts across the peninsula from St. Augustine to Tampa. In these forts were established garrisons intended to keep the Indians in order. One of these strongholds, Fort King, was in the most populous part of the Indian territory, now Marion county, forty miles south of the home of Micco, king of the Seminoles, and in the hunting grounds of Osceola, who became the most famous warrior of the nation.

Fort King was a stockade with a block house at each corner, on a hill about three miles west of Silver Springs, and about the same distance east of the present site of the Ocala court house. It was the most important station between St. Augustine and Tampa and had the largest garrison. It received most of its supplies by way of the Oklawaha river and Silver Springs, then almost a century ago recognized by the government as a navigable stream.

Here on Christmas day, 1835, the Seminole war began. The officer in command had treated Osceola with unnecessary severity, making him a prisoner and keeping him for several days in chains. When the proud savage was released, he naturally sought revenge at the first opportunity. It came on Christmas day, when the commanding officer and several of his subordinates were taking dinner at a house some hundreds of yards from the fort. They were taken unawares by Osceola and his band, shot down and scalped; the Indians escaping before the soldiers from the fort could come to the aid of their officers.

The massacre of Dade and his men followed some two months later, and then the war was on in earnest. Was Rallying Point in War Days Fort King was a central point for the whites during the war. It was too strong and well garrisoned to be attacked except by surprise, and after that fateful Christmas day the soldiers never gave the Indians another chance to take them unawares. Out from Fort King went expeditions, which soon drove the Indians from their plantations and hunting grounds in central Florida and compelled them to retreat into the swamps.

It was at Fort King in 1842 that the Seminoles signed the treaty by which they pledged themselves to leave Florida and go to the west; a treaty, which a few bold spirits disregarded and retreated to the Everglades, to fight another war fifteen years later, and where their descendants yet live.

(Concluded on Eighth Page)